

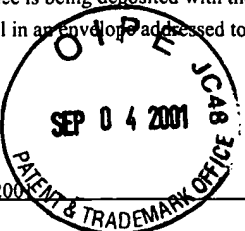
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

On August 30, 2001

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: *Andrea*



*CAU 2161*  
**PATENT**  
Attorney Docket No.: 16869P-022900US  
Client Reference No.: 340001045US1

**RECEIVED**

**SEP 07 2001**

**Group 2100**

*#3*  
*JH*  
*10-14-01*

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

Takanori Nishio et al.

Application No.: 09/886,350

Filed: June 21, 2001

For: SERVICE PROVIDER SYSTEM

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: 2161

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 and  
§1.98

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

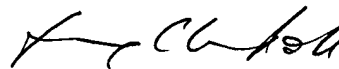
The references cited on attached form PTO-1449 are being called to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the references are enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

Applicant believes that no fee is required for submission of this statement, since it is being submitted prior to the first Office Action. However, if a fee is required, the

Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Chun-Pok Leung  
Reg. No. 41,405

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP  
Two Embarcadero Center, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Francisco, California 94111-3834  
Tel: 650-326-2400  
Fax: 650-326-2422  
RL:asb

PA 3167679 v1

RECEIVED

SEP 07 2001

Group 2100